

The Forme.

The common Sort of *Periwinkle* hath many Branches, trailing or running upon the ground, shooting out small Fibers at the Joynts as it runneth * * * and with [the leaves] come also the Flowers (one at a joynt standing upon a tender Foot-italk) being somewhat long and hollow, parted at the brims, sometimes into four, sometimes into five leaves, of a pale blew colour. The Root is not much bigger then a Rush, bushing in the ground, and creeping with his Branches far about, whereby it quickly possesseth a great compasse, and is therefore most usually planted under hedges, where it may have room to run up upon the sticks, which it doth encompassse, and bind over and over, and is perhaps from thence called *Vinca Per vinca*.

The Vertues.

* * * It is likewise good against the biting of Adders, being bruised, and applyed to the place, especially if the infusion thereof in Vinegar be taken inwardly. *Parkinson* saith, it is a tradition with many, that a wreath made hereof, and worn about the Legs, defendeth them from the Cramp; by which words he seemeth in my judgment, to doubt of the truth thereof; but indeed, he needed not so to do; for I knew a friend of mine who was very vehemently tormented with the cramp, for a long while, which could be by no means eased, till he had wrapped some of the Branches hereof about his Legs * * *. *Mr. Culpepper* writeth that *Venus* owns this Herb, and saith, That the Leaves eaten by Man and Wife together, cause love, which is a rare quality indeed if it be true.

(*To be concluded.*)

SHORTER NOTES

THE CATHERINE McMANES FUND.—The fund announced in *TORREYA* two years ago which has since provided the unusual number of illustrations has been renewed; one hundred dollars has been given for the coming year and another hundred is promised for the year following. This fund has made it possible to print many papers for which the authors demanded illustrations, and it is hoped that the fund will help make *TORREYA* more desirable, both to readers and contributors.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF *Lespedeza striata*. This native of eastern Asia was introduced into North America during the first half of the last century, and at once established itself as a naturalized member of our flora. Just how early the

species was introduced appears to be uncertain, but the popular belief held throughout the Southern States, namely that the plant was brought into that section during the Civil War period, is erroneous, although it was doubtless then disseminated in various sections where it had not been before observed. The late Professor Porter found it thoroughly naturalized in middle Georgia as early as 1846 while he was a resident of that state. Its advent was probably unnoticed by the native residents on account of the relative inconspicuousness of the plants, and how long previous to 1846 the plant may have been established as a member of our flora Professor Porter was not able to learn.

During the first half of the last century the plant seems to have spread slowly; however, during the second half, it advanced north, northwest, and west, apparently establishing itself permanently wherever it gained a foothold.

On account of local means of dispersal *Lespedeza striata* spread westward more rapidly than northward. The end of the last century saw it established in Texas, Kansas, and Illinois, while it was not until the beginning of the present century that it got a firm hold in southern Pennsylvania.

The geographical range for the species given in the several floras within whose limits it occurs are too narrow, and should read Pennsylvania to Kansas, Florida, and Texas.

J. K. SMALL

REVIEWS

Ganong's Teaching Botanist*

Progressive teachers of botany already possess well worn copies of the first edition of this pioneer contribution to the pedagogy of their subject. The second edition, "rewritten almost throughout", is brought abreast of the advance of the past decade in botanical education, and will, no doubt, be even more warmly welcomed than was the first edition.

The title not only names the book, but designates the class of readers to whom it is addressed, and to whom it will make its

*The Teaching Botanist. By William F. Ganong, Ph.D. Second edition. Pp. xi + 439; plates 2; figures 40. \$1.25. The Macmillan Co., New York. 1910.